REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 28, 2005. Claims 1 to 3, 6 to 19, 22 to 33, 40 to 48, 50 and 51 are now pending in the application, with Claims 4, 5, 20, 21 and 49 having been cancelled herein, and Claim 51 having been newly-added. Claims 1, 17, 33, 50 and 51 are the independent claims herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 33 and 40 to 48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory matter. Without conceding the correctness of the rejections, the preamble of Claim 33 has nonetheless been amended to make it even clearer that the program is computer executable and is stored on a computer readable memory medium. Accordingly, Claims 33 and 40 to 48 are believed to be in full compliance with § 101 and therefore, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 33 and 40 to 50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,670,974 (McKnight) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,147,687 (Wanderski). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns displaying information about peripheral devices on a display screen. According to the invention, when a program for displaying information of a peripheral device is activated, information of the peripheral device previously stored in a resident memory is read from the memory and is displayed on the display screen. Meanwhile, an operation is performed to obtain status information or alert information of the peripheral device from the peripheral device through a communication link. Then, the display is updated to display the obtained status or alert information of the peripheral device in response to completion of a process for obtaining at least one of the

status information and the alert information of the peripheral device from the peripheral device via the communication link. As a result, the previously stored information of the device can be displayed before the information is obtained from the peripheral device, with any changes to the device information then being updated on the display upon completion of the obtaining process.

Referring specifically to the claims, amended independent Claim 1 is an information processing apparatus capable of activating an application for displaying on a display screen information of a peripheral device on a communication link, comprising storage means for storing information of the peripheral device on the communication link in a resident memory, obtaining means for obtaining status information or alert information of the peripheral device through the communication link when the application is activated, first display control means for displaying the information on the display screen of the peripheral device on the communication link according to information previously stored in the storage means before the obtaining means completes obtaining the status information or the alert information of the peripheral device from the peripheral device via the communication link, and second display control means for updating a content of the information displayed by the first display control means according to the status information or the alert information of the peripheral device obtained by the obtaining means in response to completion of a process for obtaining at least one of the status information and the alert information of the peripheral device from the peripheral device via the communication link.

Amended independent Claims 17, 33 and 50 are method, computer program and apparatus (in non-means-plus-function form) claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 1.

Newly-added independent Claim 51 includes features along the lines of Claim 1, but is more specifically directed to an information processing apparatus, comprising first booting means for booting a first display thread, executing means for executing an obtaining thread, parallel to the first display thread, which controls an obtaining process for obtaining status information or alert information of a peripheral device, second booting means for booting a second display thread, controlling means for controlling the obtaining thread to enter a wait state until the second display thread quits, and display controlling means for resuming the second display thread in response to completion of the obtaining process by the obtaining thread and for controlling the second display thread, wherein the second display thread controls a displaying process of at least one of the status information and the alert information obtained by the obtaining process controlled by the obtaining thread.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 1, 17, 33 and 50. More particularly, the applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of displaying information of a peripheral device previously stored in a resident memory on a display before completing a process for obtaining status information or alert information of the peripheral device from the peripheral device via a communication link, and updating a content of the displayed information according to the obtained information in response to completion of a process for obtaining at least one of

the status information and the alert information of the peripheral device from the peripheral device via the communication link.

The Office Action more or less admits that McKnight fails to teach displaying information of a peripheral device previously stored in a storage means before an obtaining means completes obtaining information of the peripheral device on a network. However, the Office Action alleges that McKnight does mention the efficient displaying and updating of information, but Applicant fails to see how such an alleged disclosure could possibly teach the foregoing features of the claimed invention. Nonetheless, the Office Action also cited Wanderski as allegedly teaching such a feature.

As Applicant understands Wanderski, it discloses that a user copies files from a CD-ROM to a storage device. An updated view of the file hierarchy is displayed in time increments, even though other updates to the hierarchy may still be pending. Thus, the user can interact with the newly-installed files even while other files may still be in the process of being copied. As such, while Wanderski may display a partially copied file hierarchy while additional copying is being performed, the process of copying files is simply different from present invention. Moreover, Applicant fails to see how the copying of files as disclosed by Wanderski could possibly correspond to displaying information of a peripheral device previously stored in a resident memory on a display before completing a process for obtaining status information or alert information of the peripheral device from the peripheral device via a communication link, and updating a content of the displayed information according to the obtained information in response to completion of a process for obtaining at least one of the status information and the alert information of the peripheral device from the peripheral device via the communication link. Accordingly, the

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proposed combination of McKnight and Wanderski would not have resulted in the presently claimed invention.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, amended independent Claims 1, 17, 33 and 50, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, and newly-added independent Claim 51, are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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